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{page 11}

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News worth sharing.

London's hoop dreams

Season starts in late October and runs through March **The league will announce its full roster of teams June 30**

MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

The groundwork is being laid for a professional basketball franchise in London.

A local ownership group has submitted a letter of intent to join the National Basketball League of Canada, which was launched Thursday in Halifax.

Taylor Brown, who is a representative of the ownership group, played college basketball and coached at the high school level in London.

"We've got a passion for the game and we love helping kids," said Brown. "That's why this type of league interests us, to get the community, schools and kids involved in the sport," Brown said.

The Halifax Rainmen, Saint John (N.B.) Mill Rats and Quebec Kebs — teams averaging crowds between 1,500 and 3,500 in the Premier Basketball League last season — founded the new circuit. NBL Canada has also received letters of intent from Oshawa, Kingston, Barrie and Moncton, N.B.

Brown said the franchise would play out of the John Labatt Centre and hopes to draw as many as 3,000 fans per game.

"We feel through marketing, low ticket prices to get students and children into the gym, and feeding off the London Knights, we can expand this," Brown said.

On the offensive

The London ownership group submitted its letter of intent to NBL Canada this past Monday. A formal application to join the league and deposit on the franchise fee are due May 16.

Joseph's. Dream

▶ Surrounded by celebrating students, Susan Ferley, middle left, director at the Grand Theatre, presents a cheque for $5,000 to Christine Petrasiuas, a music teacher at St. Mary's Catholic School, and her class as a token of appreciation for their help.

KYLE REA/METRO

Coloured coat gets a big hand

Students at St. Mary's helped out with the Grand Theatre's production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat, which ran from Nov. 24 to Jan. 2.

1 news

Google-Facebook feud fuels chatter of smears, secret bloggers and Richard Nixon. Scan code for story.

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On the web at metronews.ca

While touring flooded areas in Manitoba, Stephen Harper vows to work with provinces to limit damage from future floods. Video at metronews.ca

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Fantastical fashion show

More than 2,000 expected for weekend sci-fi/fantasy fundraiser at Gibraltar weekend market Runs 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sat. and Sun.

If you've been pondering the age-old question — which is really better, Star Wars or Star Trek? — then you'll be in good company this weekend.

That's when the London Rogues Star Wars Fan Club will be presenting the fifth-annual science fiction and fantasy convention at the Gibraltar weekend market, 1712 Dundas St.

With 10 local sci-fi/fantasy costume groups, and more than 100 people expected to dress in authentic costumes, it's a fun-filled weekend for anyone with a passion for the genre, said organizer Robert Appleton.

"It's a chance for the group to get out, show off their costumes and show off their groups with a table and display. People can get to know who they are," he said.

Admission to the show is $5 (kids under 12 free), with proceeds going to the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Appleton said it's the first time they've turned their event into the fundraiser.

"We want to see what we can get for the fibrosis," he said. "Any help we can provide for them is great."

While exhibitors will be dressed in costume, can visitors dress up, too?

Absolutely, says Appleton. KYLE REA

Guest list

The following costume groups are expected to attend:

- **London Rogues Star Wars Fan Club**
- **501 Canada and Rebel Legion** (Star Wars costuming groups)
- **Star Fleet, London division** (local Star Trek group)
- **Crimson Wings** (local anime group)
- **Camarilla/World of Darkness** (group devoted to vampire-themed role-playing game)
- **Geek Girls** (all-girls costuming group)
- **Ontario Ghostbusters**
- **Woodstock Animanga**
- **London Furry community** (people who dress up as furry animals)

Ride to honour soldier

He died fighting for freedom in Afghanistan, and now a fundraising motorcycle ride in his honour returns this Sunday.

That's when Londoners will gather for the second annual Trooper Mark Wilson ride from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Parkwood Hospital. Cost is $20 per rider and $15 per passenger, with proceeds destined for the Veterans Care Program.

A vintage military vehicle display, barbecue and live music are to be featured too. More info: sjhcfoundation.org/events/2nd-annual-trooper-mark-wilson-ride. METRO

Tragic date

Trooper Mark Wilson of the Royal Canadian Dragoons in Afghanistan died on Oct. 7, 2006.

Collect rain to help fight crime

The London Elgin Middlesex Crime Stoppers have partnered with RainBarrel.ca to encourage homeowners to use rain barrels to collect rainwater to use in the garden.

The price is $55 per barrel, tax included. (Additional overflow hose can also be purchased if required.) Orders are being taken for a pickup date of June 11 at the London Police Association parking lot, 330 William St. Proceeds from sales go to Crime Stoppers.

See colour options and order your barrel online at rainbarrel.ca/crimestoppers METRO

Diamond forced to be patient

Diamond Aircraft officials will have to wait until the new federal cabinet is announced before finding out whether they'll get a $35-million loan.

Company president Peter Maurer met with Industry Canada officials, including Minister Tony Clement, on Tuesday.

Clement acknowledged the possibility that he may be assigned a new portfolio. AM980/AM980.CA

FRANK GUNN/THECANADIAN PRESS

▶ Clement

Investigator wins award of merit

Insp. Steve Williams of the London Police Service has won the 2011 Award of Merit from the Ontario Homicide Investigators Association. METRO

Farmers' market continues to be summer hotspot

Masonville Farmers' Market adds a second day this year

COURTESY THE MASONVILLE FARMERS' MARKET

▶ Jen and Jeff Pastorius of On the Move Organics bring their selection of locally grown produce to the Masonville Farmers' Market.

NICOLE LAIDLER
LONDON@METRONEWS.CA

Eunice Diamond is looking forward to the fresh edamame beans. She's just one of hundreds of Londoners who have made the Masonville Farmers' Market a summer shopping destination since it opened in the parking lot of a north London shopping mall in 2009.

This year's market opens Friday, when close to 40 area farmers and producers set up shop to sell everything from locally grown seasonal produce to award-winning cheddar.

"We'll have exotic local mushrooms, some early season organics and lots of produce coming up from the Leamington greenhouses," says Dave Cook, market owner and operator and Fire Roasted Coffee Co. founder. The list of vendors will grow along with the growing season, he adds.

"I like talking to the people who actually grow the food," says Diamond. "The market is something I look forward to each week, instead of going to the same old grocery store."

Market details

- Fridays & Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Rain or shine, until Thanksgiving weekend
- Masonville Place parking lot, northwest corner

Fanshawe centre 'state-of-the-art'

Fanshawe College will officially open its Centre for Applied Transportation Technologies on Friday, and host an open house and barbecue Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to equipment and learning tools, the 148,000-square-foot facility will feature a variety of green innovations, including a vegetated green roof occupying 48,000 square feet, storm water reclamation, and solar-powered GPS tracking skylights for natural lighting in the shops. METRO

1,500 Number of students the new centre will accommodate.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Centre at 1764 Oxford St.

Senior sought in wheelchair, bike collision

Police are looking for a senior man who was riding an electric bicycle and struck another senior man in a motorized wheelchair from behind.

The collision occurred May 5 just after noon on Bow Street.

The collision knocked the victim over; the motorized bicycle rider left the scene. The victim received minor injuries.

The motorized bicycle rider was described as a white male, about 60 to 70 years old with salt-and-pepper hair, a beard and large dark sunglasses. METRO

Tips

- If you have information, please call police at 519-661-5680 or Crime Stoppers 1-800-227-TIPS (8477) (londoncrimestoppers.com).

19TH CENTURY

Pioneer Village expecting busy year

For more than half a century, Fanshawe Pioneer Village has been offering Londoners a trip back in time to the 19th century. And this weekend, the journey resumes again for another season.

Sheila Johnson, executive director, expects this to be one of the busiest seasons yet for the pioneer village, located at 2609 Fanshawe Park Rd. East.

"We have more events this season than in any other previous season," she enthused, noting popular events like Dominion Day, a teddy bear picnic and the Fanshawe frolic vintage dance weekend are all set to return.

The village itself features actors dressed in period costumes, demonstrating what life was like in 19th-century Canada. For more information, visit fanshawepioneervillage.ca. KYLE REA

Overnight parking comeback

Overnight parking makes a comeback to London later this month.

Shane McGuire, city manager of parking and traffic signals, says the popular program returns for a second year.

"The lifting of the overnight parking restriction comes into effect on ... Victoria Day weekend and extends through to Labour Day weekend," said McGuire. Certain streets are still off limits, as well as commercial and recreational vehicles. Signs will be posted if parking is prohibited. AM980/AM980.CA

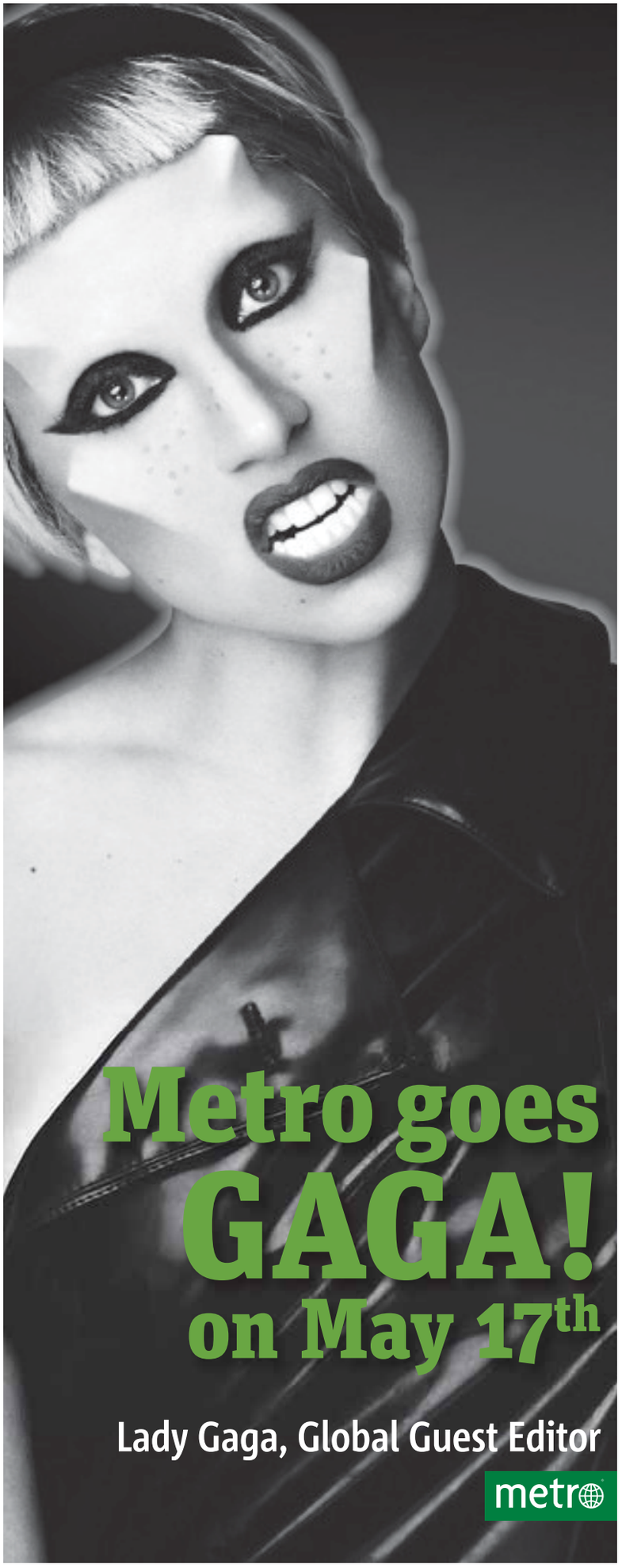
Free clinic for Vision Health Month

As part of Vision Health Month, CNIB is holding a free glaucoma clinic Saturday at the White Oaks Centre, 1105 Wellington Rd.

Glaucoma affects 250,000 Canadians, yet only half are aware that they have it.

To find out if you may be at risk, sign up for a consultation with an optometrist. Spaces are limited.

The clinic runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. METRO



Canadians face canon fire, fend off Libyan forces

Canadian warship forces Gadhafi soldiers to abandon attack at sea Responded with machine-gun fire

A Canadian warship has helped fend off an attack by Libyan forces on the port city of Misrata despite coming under fire itself.

A statement from NATO says the frigate HMCS Charlottetown was conducting patrols with other allied vessels when a number of fast small boats launched an attack.

The statement says the Charlottetown acted with a British Destroyer and was supported by a French warship as it forced the boats to abandon their attack.

The frigate came under fire during the incident in what NATO describes as artillery and anti-aircraft canon fire from regime forces ashore. The Charlottetown responded with a short burst of machine-gun fire of its own.

None of the allied warships suffered any damage or injury in the incident that occurred around 2 a.m. local time Thursday morning.

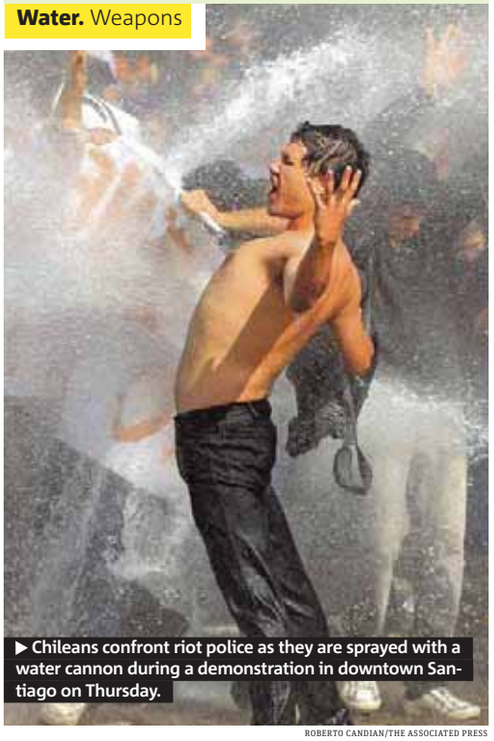
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Attacks at sea

NATO says this is the second action at sea by forces loyal to embattled Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi.

- **Mining** It follows the mining of the approaches to Misrata harbour two weeks ago.
- **Passage** In that incident, NATO forces destroyed two mines and swept the area allowing safe passage for ships.

Water. Weapons



▶ Chileans confront riot police as they are sprayed with a water cannon during a demonstration in downtown Santiago on Thursday.

ROBERTO CANDIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Students make a splash

Thousands of students went on strike and clashed with police during a protest to demand non-discriminatory access to education and against the government plans to reform and privatize part of the Chilean education system.

Harper's frozen on Arctic action: WikiLeaks

A new WikiLeaks cable suggests the U.S. government views Stephen Harper's talk about Canadian Arctic sovereignty as little more than empty chest-thumping designed to win votes.

In a diplomatic cable posted this week by the online whistleblower, the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa says the Tories have made successful political use of promises to beef up Canada's presence in the Arctic.

But it says the Harper government has done only scant implementation on pledges like increasing surveillance over the Northwest Passage and purchasing armed icebreakers and Arctic Ocean sensors.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"When it comes to the Arctic, the prime minister is all hat and no boot."

PROF. MICHAEL BYERS, AUTHOR OF WHO OWNS THE ARCTIC?

There's 'no time to cry'

Minutes count in flood battle

It was a race against time at flood-hit Hoop and Holler Bend in Manitoba on Thursday.

Residents and soldiers were using every extra minute to pile sandbags around houses that could be swamped by a controlled release of water intended to avoid a deluge further downstream on the Assiniboine River.

Reservists were shoring up inflatable barriers around Lucy Kinnear's home as she packed up last-minute belongings.

"This piece of land is supposed to be high and dry," said the mother of two-year-old twins.

Kinnear said she hadn't had time to cry or feel bitter since she found out her home is in the area of a deliberate flood spill.

"All we can do is get things out of the basement, make arrangements for our boys, our pets and ourselves."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dam-busters

- **The plan:** Manitoba says a controlled release of water would flood up to 225 square kilometres and could affect at least 150 homes.
- **The tradeoff:** Without the controlled release, it's feared 500 square kilometres and 850 homes would be swamped if levees fail under pressure from the rushing river.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Residents rush to remove personal belongings from their homes near Hoop and Holler Bend in Manitoba on Thursday as troops assemble a dike.

Tornado survivors vow to 'damn well' beat flood

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Lynn and Les Kauppila already lost their home once to a natural disaster, and they don't want to relive the experience.

The couple survived having their roof ripped off as a tornado touched down in Elie, Man., in June 2007.

But they're cautiously optimistic about the newest threat their property faces —a flood of water from an intentionally breached dike a short distance away along the Assiniboine River.

The entire town if Elie is furiously prepping for the possibility the province will decide to move soon on the dike-cutting plan.

And Lynn said that brings back gut-wrenching memories of the tornado.

"I thought, 'I don't want to go through that again,'" she said.

But she added: "We've damn well lived through an F5 tornado, and we'll damn well live through this."

JAMES TURNER/METRO

▶ Les Kauppila works on a dike surrounding his home.

Teen bags a winning invention

Ryan Conbut may just be the most popular person in Elie, Man., these days.

The 17-year-old's invention of a motor-powered portable sandbag-making machine has kept him hopping as people call for help to protect their homes.

Conbut's hand-built machine uses a conveyor belt to carry sand shovelled or dropped onto it by humans or a front-end loader and funnels it down into a chute.

Sandbags placed at the spouts of the chute are filled and passed on to the eager arms of people who lug them to a nearby dike. The machine can produce up to 20 sandbags a minute.

JAMES TURNER

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RAID REACTION

Obama approval soars

U.S. President Barack Obama's approval rating has hit its highest point in two years, 60 per cent, and more than half of Americans say he deserves re-election, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll taken after U.S. forces killed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

In worrisome signs for Republicans, the president's standing improved not just on foreign policy but also on the economy.

Comfortable majorities of the public now call Obama a strong leader who will keep America safe. Nearly three-fourths — 73 per cent — also now say they are confident that Obama can handle terrorist threats effectively. He also has improved his standing on Afghanistan, Iraq and the United States' relationships with other countries.

Despite a sluggish recovery from the recession, 52 per cent approve of Obama's stewardship of the economy, giving him his best rating on that issue since the early days of his presidency; 52 per cent also like how he is handling the nation's stubbornly high nine per cent unemployment.

Impressions of the nation's economic health have improved after last Friday's jobs report, which showed U.S. companies are on a hiring spree.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

45

Forty-five per cent say the country is headed in the right direction. Yet about half say it's on the wrong track.

Trump's popularity getting trumped: Poll

JIM COLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Possible 2012 presidential hopeful Republican Donald Trump waves to a crowd of more than 500 people as he is introduced during a luncheon with the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce this past Wednesday.

Billionaire loses cred over foreign policy ideas, same-sex views

Just a few weeks ago, Donald Trump was leading the field of potential Republican presidential candidates in public opinion polls.

Now the outspoken billionaire is sinking to the bottom of the pack, mocked for everything from his outrageous hairstyle to his embrace of a fringe group who believe U.S. President Barack Obama is not American-born.

"Donald Trump had a meteoric rise to the top of the GOP presidential field and has fallen back down just as quickly," Dean Debnam, president of Public Policy Polling, said after releasing a survey showing Trump's slide from first place to a tie for fifth.

The real estate mogul has been taunted for his simplistic foreign policy ideas and opposition to same-sex marriage. On Libya, Trump said, "I would go in, I would take the oil and stop this baby stuff." Meanwhile, to the New York Times he compared same-sex marriage to golf putter preferences.

"It's like in golf," Trump told the paper. "A lot of people are switching to these really long putters. Very unattractive. It's weird ... I hate it. I am a traditionalist. I have so many fabulous friends who happen to be gay, but I am a traditionalist." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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‘Explain yourself’: Clement to gas execs

‘People deserve the answers’ to why it costs so much to fill up, Tony Clement says But will mere explanations satisfy hard-pressed consumers?

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

TSX	Dollar
– 30.32 (13,389.42)	– 0.13¢ (103.92¢ US)

Oil	Natural gas
+ 76¢ US ($98.97 US)	1,000 cu ft $4.256 US (+ 1.5¢ US)

Gold $1,506.80 US (+ $5.40 US)

Industry Minister Tony Clement is rolling out the welcome mat for gasoline refiners, distributors and retailers to explain why Canadians are getting such a hosing at the pumps.

As gasoline prices dipped on Thursday, reversing spikes earlier in the week, Clement said he planned to invite fuel producers to appear before a parliamentary committee to explain their pricing methods.

“No one can understand why last year, when oil per barrel was around $140 or $150, we were paying $1.37 per litre, when this year oil is south of $98 a barrel and yet we’re paying more,” he said.

However, Clement did not commit to a date for the meetings. And it’s uncertain how far Ottawa will go to deal with high gas prices.

Former Liberal MP and gas-price watcher Dan McTeague said a parliamentary committee is probably a waste of time. He said the government would be better off giving tax rebates as federal revenues rise on the back of gas-price hikes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Walking the talk, or just talking? Tony Clement says he plans to summon fuel producers to Ottawa to tell him why the price of gas is so high. But, asked whether Ottawa might impose an excess-profits tax on the oil industry, as Britain’s Conservative government did this year, he said higher taxes are not the answer.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY

Here, just take my wallet

The reasons for the rising price of gasoline range from higher crude oil prices on the back of a falling U.S. dollar and Mideast political instability to speculation in wholesale markets. As well, there are fears that U.S. refinery closings due to springtime flooding on the Mississippi River could cut gas supplies. In Ontario, meanwhile, new consumption taxes on gasoline have raised the price since last summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toyota faces long, bumpy road to recovery

Toyota should have owned North American roads this summer. When gas prices go up, drivers go for smaller, fuel-efficient cars. The last time prices spiked in 2008, Toyota captured the title of world’s No. 1 automaker — and has held it ever since.

Now gas in some parts of Canada has hit $1.50 a litre, but Toyota is struggling, hammered by supply disruptions in the wake of the Japan earthquake and still bearing the stigma of its safety recalls last year.

Toyota said Wednesday that its quarterly profit fell more than 75 per cent, mostly because of production problems from the March 11 quake and tsunami. Chief executive Akio Toyoda said executives are “gritting our teeth” to keep jobs in Japan.

Meanwhile, Ford, Nissan, Kia and Hyundai have all introduced sexier, more chiselled designs with high fuel economy.

JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Toyota was struggling to hold onto its market share even before the March 11 earthquake, with stiff competition from rival automakers and a decline in its own brand.

General Motors and Chrysler, out of bankruptcy and healthier than they have been in years, are gaining market share, too.

For decades, Toyota’s strength was high quality, fuel economy and reliability. But, by its own admission, Toyota lost sight of quality in its pursuit of global sales. Analysts expect GM to retake the world sales title this year.

John Murphy, an autos analyst for Merrill Lynch, estimated Toyota will recover only some of its lost market share, probably rising to just over 15 per cent, by 2014. Aaron Bragman, an analyst with consulting firm IHS Automotive, predicts it will be around 14 per cent as late as 2017 — the equivalent of 300,000 fewer cars a year than Toyota sold at its peak.

“They lost their way,” Bragman said. “They wanted to be GM. But they lost what made them a valued brand and a valued company.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cineplex bombs at the box office

A slate of lacklustre films left Cineplex Inc. with a loss of $848,000 in the first quarter as fewer Canadians went to their local cinemas, affecting the sales of tickets and food items.

The Toronto-based movie exhibitor, which also operates other media assets, saw a mixed bag of results across its operations, as revenues in its advertising operations soared, but were outshone by the void left by blockbuster Avatar.

Without a major hit in the first three months of the year, attendance at Cineplex dropped 14.6 per cent, pulling down revenue by 13.3 per cent to $221.4 million.

The top performer for the period was The King’s Speech, winner of the Oscar for best picture, which represented seven per cent of the company’s overall box-office for the period, compared to the stunning 25 per cent representation that Avatar had a year earlier.

Box-office revenue per patron slipped 4.2 per cent to $8.51 as premium-priced 3-D and Imax movies took a backseat to traditional Academy Awards fare.

The company has about 10,000 employees under its numerous brands, which include Cineplex Odeon, Galaxy, Famous Players, Colossus, SilverCity and Scotiabank theatres.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Freelancers win copyright suit

A $7.9-million settlement has won court approval in a class-action lawsuit by freelance writers against some of Canada’s biggest publishers. The writers charged that outlets including Toronto Star Newspapers Ltd., Rogers Publishing Limited and affiliates infringed on their copyright by posting their work online without their permission. The settlement compensates authors and will help to clarify digital copyright issues, plaintiff lawyers said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A BIG PIP, PIP HOORAY FOR ROYAL BUNS

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON
METRO

1 Canucks fever. The last time a Canadian NHL team captured the Stanely Cup, grunge music was still in style (Montreal won it in 1993 over L.A.). But Nevermind. The Vancouver Canucks are looking like a good bet to end the drought after advancing to the Western Conference finals, just one step away from a shot at Lord Stanley.

2 Pippa. Pippa Middleton has become so famous since nearly upstaging her princess sis on royal wedding day that even her derriere has inspired a Facebook page — "Pippa Middleton Ass Appreciation Society" — with 215,000 fans. Pippa is now a household name. Now watch for it to become a popular baby name by next year.

3 Skywriting. What's the next big advertising gimmick? It could be skywriting, which recently had Twitter, blogs and media abuzz after aircraft wrote "LIVE CLARITIN CLEAR TODAY" in the skies over Toronto. Advil must have done well that day as well from all the sore necks straining upwards to read the message being skywritten.

"Pippa Middleton has become so famous ... that even her derriere has inspired a Facebook page ..."

4 CSI star doesn't have Bieber fever. What does Marg Helgenberger get for saying that Canada's Justin Bieber is "kind of a brat." A) her name trending on Google this week, B) backlash from Bieber fans, and C) a tweet from @justinbieber himself, part of which read, "it's kinda lame when someone you met briefly and never worked with comments on you."

5 CN Tower (of Terror). If you thought its glass floor was trippy, well then just wait till you see its new EdgeWalk. The attraction, which CN Tower PR folk are calling "the world's highest full circle hands-free walk," launches Aug. 1. What would make the adventure more extreme would be catching a Jose Bautista homer soaring out of nearby Rogers Centre.

6 Skype is hot. She had heavyweight suitors after her, including Facebook and Google, but it was Microsoft that landed her this week — at a cost of $8.5 billion US. Perhaps the best tweet response came from @abrams: Announcement: "Skype to be renamed Microsoft Windows Live Hotmail MSN Video Chat Bing."

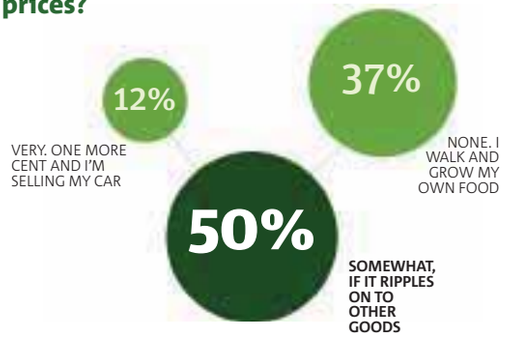
7 Friday the 13th. If you're at all superstitious, this is the day you watch your back. Unless, of course, you are 15 and younger, in which case you are (likely) a fan of Taylor Swift and embrace the No. 13 like her six million fans @taylorswift13 on Twitter. Including my 10-year-old daughter.

8 Survivor finale. Sunday we find out if Boston Rob — who has been on the show like a million times — will finally take it. He's in the final four. He has never won it. Here's hoping the dude takes it. If not, we'll see him again.

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).

metro life panel **Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll**

How affected are you by rising gas prices?



Local tweets

- **@linzsage:** Spend some time in the future w/ @emerginglondon — Visioning and how to apply to #ldnont. Open #leadershipldn session: http://ow.ly/4SYSB
- **@WhiteCabana:** I knew the sun wasn't going to last ... one day per week ... surely we can do better!? Grey in #ldnOnt but I'm trying to stay positive.
- **@AwesomeBioTA:** Just saw the first baby geese at #UWO of the season. The obscene season of cuteness has started
- **@JusLouie:** Grade 12 students are getting accepted to #uwo today ... I feel old
- **@GregRJacobs:** I have lunch in 30 minutes and need a place that serves good, no GREAT, Quesadillas in #LDNOnt ... Ready? GO!
- **@JA_London:** Some great golf weather in #ldnont lately! Like us on Facebook & win a foursome at the JA Golf Tourney http://j.mp/mzjddF
- **@SomethingOn:** I grew up in a small town biking on the sidewalk ... the reason I don't ride in #ldnont is bikes are considered vehicles http://bit.ly/ktqkZH

Worth mentioning

The world could consume an estimated 140 billion tons of minerals, ores, fossil fuels and wood-based fuels annually by 2050 — three times its current appetite, a new United Nations report warned Thursday

The report said the world is already running out of cheap and high-quality sources of essential materials such as oil, copper and gold, which require ever-rising volumes of fossil fuels and fresh water to produce.

The overall demand may triple, the UN report said, because of population growth, high levels of consumption in industrialized countries and increased demand for material goods.

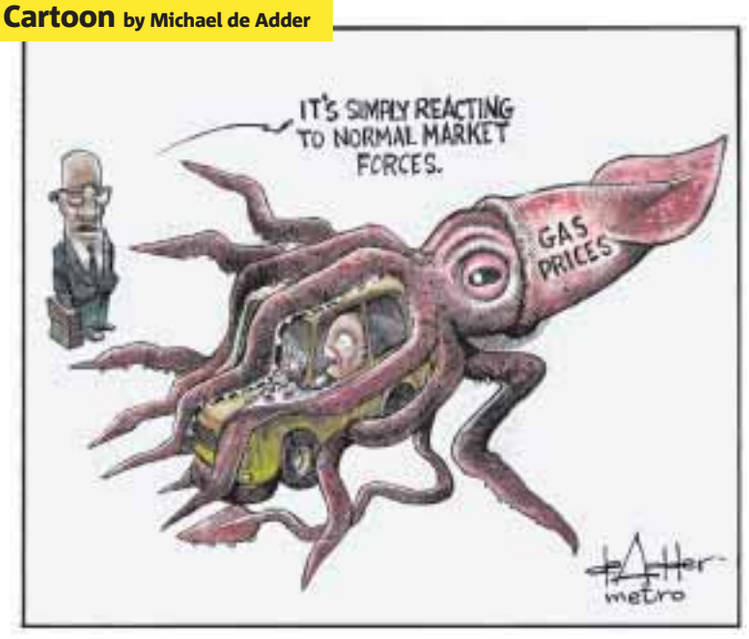
The UN Environment Program said citizens in richer developed countries consume an average of 16 tons of those four key resources per capita, and as much as 40 or more tons.

By comparison, it said, the average person in India today consumes four tons per year.

The report said ways must be found to do more with less.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder



WEIRD NEWS

U.S. cops 'like' stupid criminals

Authorities say four people were indicted in a Houston bank robbery after bragging about it on Facebook.

Federal prosecutors say two former tellers at the International Bank of Commerce recruited a boyfriend and a brother to steal more than $62,000 on March 23.

Prosecutors say former tellers Estefany Danelia Martinez, 18, and Anna Margarita Rivera, 19, Martinez's boyfriend, Ricky Gonzalez, 19, and Rivera's brother, Arturo Solano, 22, were indicted Wednesday on charges of bank robbery and embezzlement.

Authorities say an anonymous tip led investigators to Facebook posts. In one, Martinez wrote, "IM RICH." Another post said: "WIPE MY TEETH WITH HUNDEREDS."

Gonzalez's attorney, Lance Hamm, said his client is "extremely remorseful for what he's accused of doing." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro
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Plot synopsis

- Annie's (Kristen Wiig) life is in tatters. Her business is a victim of a downturned economy and her boyfriend (Jon Hamm) calls her his "number three." When BFF Lillian (Maya Rudolph) asks Annie to be her maid of honour she should be thrilled but is overwhelmed by the job and her pushy fellow bridesmaids (Rose Byrne, Melissa McCarthy, Wendi McLendon-Covey and Ellie Kemper) or as Lillian calls them, the "stone cold pack of weirdoes."
- **Ratings:**
  Richard: ●●●●
  Mark: ●●●●

▶ From left: Wendi McLendon-Covey, Rose Byrne, Kristen Wiig, Melissa McCarthy, Maya Rudolph and Ellie Kemper star in Bridesmaids, which opens in theatres today.

Bridesmaids take the cake

Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin debate the merits of Bridesmaids
Wiig pushes herself to a new level in one the best female comedies ever

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Richard Crouse: Mark, the big mistake people will make about Bridesmaids is thinking that it is a chick flick or a female version of The Hangover. In fact, I think it takes the best elements of those two and cleverly mixes them into one very funny but still very heartfelt movie that should have been called Bridesmaid on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown. Do you agree with me that this is the funniest female comedy that Tina Fey didn't write?

Mark Breslin: I've been raving for years that Kristin Wiig is the Carol Burnett of our times: the greatest female sketch comic working today. Now, with this movie, she surpasses even that. I was worried that the movie would just substitute girl gross-outs for boy gross-outs, but there's a depth here that the trailer doesn't hint at. The humour is based on some pretty dark topics: fear of failure, loneliness, body image issues, so bravo to Wiig and her cast for going there. But most importantly, Wiig has wrested the wedding comedy from the hands of Kate Hudson.

RC: Hallelujah! Wiig is the best thing to happen to SNL in years but her big screen output has been somewhat underwhelming. Her movies like MacGruber always felt to me like she was acting in a long form sketch. She's always funny, but I never felt like there was a real depth of character there until now. Her work as the neurotic but mostly well meaning Annie is a breakthrough, proving that being funny and having feelings are not mutually exclusive.

MB: Well put, Richard. But before we turn off any potential moviegoer thinking they're about to watch a Sundance comedy, let's remember that there are two hysterical, verrrrry broad set pieces in the middle of the movie that will satisfy anyone – male or female looking for belly laughs. The only thing in the movie that didn't work for me were the British roommates, which felt forced, unlike her romance with the patrolman, which felt real and blithe. He's a standout in a large cast. Anybody in it catch your eye?

RC: Absolutely. Chris O'Dowd as the lovelorn cop brings a huge amount of charm to the movie and Rose Byrne, who I'm used to seeing in dramas, is very funny.

MB: Let's not forget Melissa McCarthy who gets huge laughs, even if some of them are on the cheap side. And Jill Clayburgh in her last role. R.I.P.

2 scene

Gage winner

The last couple of days were nail-biters for 20-year-old Jeroen Engelen from Holland.

He learned he was one of the finalists for a chance to act as Lady Gaga's assistant. Now, he is on his way to London to meet his idol and work as her editorial assistant on Monday, when the singer edits Metro papers from around the world.

"It's like I'm still dreaming!" he says.

Remember to pick up Tuesday's edition of Metro, which will be guest edited by Lady Gaga

METRO

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Depp can't shake being Capt. Jack

Pirates of the Caribbean star was excited to get another chance to work with actress Penelope Cruz

NED EHRBAR
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METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

▶ Johnny Depp and Penelope Cruz star in Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides.

Much earlier in his career, Johnny Depp claimed none of his films would ever make any money. But with Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides, the fourth installment in the hugely successful franchise set to be released, he was clearly mistaken.

"It's not my fault. I did my best, even to the point of trying to get fired on the first one, and they just couldn't bring themselves to do it," Depp says of his good fortune. "It's kind of interesting to experience that kind of ride after essentially 20 years of enjoying a career based on failures. And then suddenly something clicks. The fact that people decided to go see a movie that I was in was probably the most shocking thing that I've ever been through."

Also shocking to Depp is how much Capt. Jack Sparrow, the beloved scoundrel he plays in the Pirates films, has seeped into his subconscious.

"There's most definitely a part of me in Capt. Jack, and now — fortunately or unfortunately — there's a great part of Capt. Jack in me as well," he says.

Given that Capt. Jack has led the franchise to bring in a whopping $2.6 billion US at the box office over the course of the three films, chances are Depp will have to put up with his swashbuckling alter ego for some years to come. And that's something he's certainly prepared for.

"I think they could wheel me in, I could have my dreads get tangled in the wheels of my chair," he jokes. "A character like Capt. Jack, I feel like you could just continue. The possibilities are endless, limitless."

Of course, more Pirates movies means more pirates, and On Stranger Tides introduces a new element in Sparrow's life: ex-lover and fierce sword-fighting opponent Angelica, played by Penelope Cruz.

"When we saw each other again, it felt like we'd wrapped the film Blow the week before," Depp says of working with the Spanish star. "It just sort of clicked instantly so that whatever exists in terms of chemistry was just instantly firing on all cylinders. It felt completely right."

Working with Cruz again also gave Depp the chance to enhance his vocabulary. "She taught me the raunchiest Spanish. It's so foul, I couldn't bring myself to repeat it," he says. "I'll carry it on my back for the rest of my days."

Cruz's favourite part of the production — aside from Spanish lessons with Depp — were the lavish locations, with filming taking place in Hawaii and Puerto Rico. "And then they built a beach in Universal Studios," she remembers. "When they told me, I thought it was my English, that I didn't understand what they said, and then I got there and there was really a beach in Universal Studios."

With two more Pirates of the Caribbean films on the way, Depp has a simple hope for the future: "Smooth sailing," he says. "I'm OK with no big ups, no big downs, just full-steam ahead and all things well. As a family man, all you want is pure happiness for your kids. That's a universal parent thing. That's it, that's my dream: happy kids."

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY. 13 TO THURS., MAY. 19. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

LONDON

Mustang Drive-In -London 2551 Wilton Grove Rd., 519-644-1160

Bridesmaids (14A) Fri-Sat 11:25 Sun 9:05 Tue 9:05 Thu 9:05
Fast Five (PG) Fri-Sat 9:05 Sun 11:20 Tue 11:20 Thu 11:20
Rango (PG) Fri-Sat 9:15 Sun 11:30 Tue 11:30 Thu 11:30
Thor (PG) Fri-Sat 11:10 Sun 9:15 Tue 9:15 Thu 9:15

Hyland Cinema 240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313

In a Better World (STC) Fri-Sun 2:50-7:10 Mon 12:40-5 Tue-Wed 2:50-7:10 Thu 12:40-5
Jane Eyre (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-5 Mon 7:10 Tue 5 Wed 12:40-5 Thu 2:50-7:10
The Lincoln Lawyer (14A) Fri-Sun 9:20 Mon 2:50-9:20 Tue 2:40-9:20 Wed-Thu 9:20

Rainbow Cinemas London 355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073

Cedar Rapids (14A) Fri-Thu 3:50-7:20-10
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:05-6:40
Gnomeo and Juliet (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30
Hop (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-6:50-9:20
Just Go With It (PG) Fri-Thu 7-9:45
Justin Bieber: Never Say Never (G) Fri-Thu 4:25-9:30
Mars Needs Moms (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:15
Paul (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:20-6:45-9:35
Rango (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4
Scream 4 (14A) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:40
Source Code (PG) Fri-Thu 7:15-9:55
Sucker Punch (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50
Yogi Bear (G) Fri-Thu 2-7:30

Western Film Room 340, UCC Building,

Source Code (PG) Fri-Thu 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas 983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529

Bridesmaids (14A) Fri 6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:45
Fast Five (PG) Fri 6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:40
Priest (14A) Fri 6:45-9:10 Sat-Sun 1-3:20-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:10
Priest 3D (14A) Fri 7:10-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:7:10-9:35 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:35
Prom (PG) Fri 7:20-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:20-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:55
Something Borrowed (PG) Fri 7:15-10 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:15-10 Mon-Thu 7:15-10
Thor (PG) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30
Thor 3D (PG) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 7-9:50

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas 755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796

Bridesmaids (14A) No Passes Fri 3:50-6:50-10 No Passes Sat 12:50-3:50-6:50-10 No Passes Sun 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:55 No Passes Mon 6:50-9:55 No Passes Tue 3:50-6:50-9:55 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:50-9:55 No Passes Fri 3:40-6:30-9:30 No Passes Sat 12:40-3:40-6:30-9:30 No Passes Sun 12:40-3:40-6:30-9:25 No Passes Mon 6:30-9:25 No Passes Tue 3:40-6:30-9:25 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:30-9:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Fast Five (PG) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon 6:40-9:40 Tue 3:40-6:40-9:40 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:40 Fri 4-7-10 Sat 7-10 Sun 1-4-7-9:55 Mon 7-9:55 Tue 4-7-9:55 Wed-Thu 7-9:55
Limitless (14A) Fri 4:40-7:40-10:30 Sat 7:40-10:30 Sun 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:20 Mon 7:40-10:20 Tue 4:40-7:40-10:20 Wed-Thu 7:40-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Die Walküre (STC) Sat 12 Sat 12
Priest 3D (14A) No Passes Fri 5-7:30-10:10 No Passes Sat 12:25-2:40-5-7:30-10:10 No Passes Sun 12:25-2:40-5-7:30-10:05 No Passes Mon 7:30-10:05 No Passes Tue 5-7:30-10:05 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:30-10:05
Rio 3D (G) Fri 4:10-7:10-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:35 Mon 7:10-9:35 Tue 4:10-7:10-9:35 Wed 10:10 Thu 7:10-9:35
The Sound of Music (STC) Wed 6:30
Thor (PG) No Passes Fri 3:30-6:30-9:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:20 No Passes Mon 6:30-9:20 No Passes Tue 3:30-6:30-9:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:30-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Thor 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 3:55-7-9:50 No Passes Sat 1-4-7-9:50 No Passes Sun 1-4-7-9:45 No Passes Mon 7-9:45 No Passes Tue 4-7-9:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 7-9:45 No Passes Fri 4:30-7:30-10:30 No Passes Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 No Passes Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:20 No Passes Mon 7:30-10:20 No Passes Tue 4:30-7:30-10:20 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:30-10:20
Water for Elephants (PG) Fri 4:20-7:20-10:20 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:15 Mon 7:20-10:15 Tue 4:20-7:20-10:15 Wed-Thu 7:20-10:15

SilverCity London 1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125

Bridesmaids (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:30-3:45-7:05-10:25 No Passes Wed 4-7:05-10:25 No Passes Thu 12:30-3:45-7:05-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Fast Five (PG) Fri 12:15-3:20-6:45-9:50 Sat 12:15-12:45-3:20-3:50-6:45-9:50 Sun 12:15-3:20-6:45-9:50 Mon-Thu 2:15-5:30-8:45 Fri 12:45-3:50-7:10-10:20 Sat 7:10-10:20 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:50-7:10-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Die Walküre (STC) Sat 12
Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides 3D (STC) No Passes Thu 12:01
Priest 3D (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:05-3:40-6:45-9:30
Prom (PG) Fri 1:15-6:55 Sat 6:55 Sun-Thu 1:15-6:55
Rio 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:50-9:20
Scream 4 (14A) Fri 3:55-10:10 Sat 10:10 Sun-Thu 3:55-10:10
Something Borrowed (PG) Fri-Tue 1:10-4:20-7:20-10:20 Wed 4:20-7:20-10:20 Thu 1:10-4:20-7:20-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Soul Surfer (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:20-6:30-9:20
Thor (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 2-5:20-8:30
Thor 3D (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-1:30-4-4:30-7-7:30-10-10:30
Water for Elephants (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:50

Releasing her inner diva

MATT SAYLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Musician Grace Potter, from the band Grace Potter and the Nocturnals.

Grace Potter is in the middle of an electrifying concert with her band, the Nocturnals, performing retro-rock grooves from their breakthrough album, when she takes what seems like a surprising detour and launches into a Beyoncé song.

"Why don't you love me? Tell me, baby, why don't you love me?" Potter howls as she does a rendition of the Beyoncé jam so pitch-perfect she seems to have morphed into the diva.

She's wearing a minidress and stiletto heels that Beyoncé might rock, shaking her long blond hair from side to side. The only big difference between the two singers: Potter has a guitar strapped around her body.

It's taken years for Potter to release her inner-Beyoncé, but it's a transformation that Potter felt was necessary if she and the Nocturnals were going to fully realize their rock 'n' roll dreams.

"I think part of my growing up and part of my improvement as a front woman was finally embracing that spirit and that animal instinct to own it up there," says Potter, speaking backstage before the band's recent capacity-crowd concert at New York City's Irving Plaza.

"It took a lot of years for me to get comfortable, strutting my stuff, dancing like a fool, having that sparkly dress on that says 'here I am,'" she acknowledges. "Because in the beginning, I was scared — I was scared that I wasn't going to be taken seriously."

It's hard not to take Potter seriously now. The band has had a breakthrough year since the release of their self-titled album last summer, and the 27-year-old Potter, as the Nocturnals' sexy-glammed up front woman, is poised for her own star-making turn.

"If you're looking at female artists, there are very few emerging right now that do what she does," says Rick Krim, VH1's executive vice-president, talent and music programming.

"She's got an amazing voice, and a great stage presence. She's fun, she's entertaining and she's got a great personality. It's a great package."

VH1 picked the Nocturnals as one of the acts to watch last year.

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A LOOK INSIDE THE SLOAN HEADQUARTERS

SOUND CHECK

ALAN CROSS
SCENE
@METRONEWS.CA

FILE PHOTO

▶ Sloan's new album. the Double Cross, is out now.

Chris Murphy points to two giant piles of small boxes interlocked like bricks that climb 12 feet up the wall to the ceiling. Box contains 25 shrink-wrapped Sloan CDs of various vintages.

He smiles wryly.

"The joys of owning your own masters. They do make good sound insulation, though."

This is Sloan HQ, a main floor rehearsal space in a non-descript industrial area of Toronto.

They share the building with dozens of other bands who are always spilling out onto fire escapes and ratty couches to have a smoke. The windows and walls constantly vibrate with guitars and drums.

Sloan practices here at least two hours a day.

"We recorded the last half of our back catalogue in this room," says Chris, "It would be nice sometimes to go somewhere else to record the drums, but this place does the job."

Sloan's space consists of a main room with an antique pressed tin ceiling, two small anterooms and a bathroom which seems to double as a place to storyboard videos. The room stacked with CDs also serves as master control when Sloan records.

There's a small mixing board and modest ProTools rig. On the wall is a bulletin board with coloured bits of paper tacked to it.

Each has a song title written on it.

"I don't know of another band with four writers and four singers," guitarist Jay Ferguson tells me. "This is how we keep track of who sings what. We just move around the bits of paper until we find an order for the album we like."

This year marks Sloan's 20th anniversary and the title of their tenth studio album acknowledges that.

"The Double Cross? As in 'XX?' As in Roman numerals for '20?'" Murphy smiles.

"Smart, huh?"

"How much longer can you do this?" I ask. "Twenty years is a long time for anything, let alone to be in the same band that has never had a line-up change."

Murphy and Ferguson look at each other almost as if they've never considered such a question. Chris is the first to speak.

"I don't know. We may stop making albums and start releasing songs on a regular basis. And because we all contribute and split everything four ways, there's no reason why we can't continue."

The Double Cross — classic Sloan and very good, by the way — is out now.

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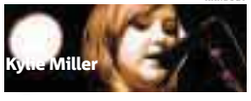
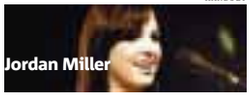
These girls are far from Done

Everybody's talking about Done With Dolls, an all-girl band of 13- and 14-year-olds produced by Raine Maida and Chantal Kreviazuk We asked Maida to find out what these rock powerhouses are all about

Questions	1. Why music?	2. Who do you listen to on your own time?	3. How do you feel when you're on stage?	4. Describe your sound in one word.	5. Are you a role model for other teen girls? And what does that mean to you.
HANDOUT Eliza Enman McDaniel	Everyone has different ways they cope with certain periods in their lives, and ours happens to be music.	Paramore, Tegan and Sara, City and Colour, All Time Low and Coldplay.	I get such a rush from knowing that the whole crowd is there to support us.	Edgy.	I hope other teen girls look up to us. It's an incredible feeling because you are representing them in a way.
HANDOUT  Kylie Miller	Expressing myself has always been important for me. I was born with music in my veins.	Tegan and Sara, Paramore, Metric, Arcade Fire and Ellie Goulding.	Being on stage is one of the best places for me to be. I feel amazing while up on stage.	Punky.	I'm not sure, but I hope I am. I want other girls to be inspired by what we're doing, and dream super big.
HANDOUT  Jordan Miller	Music is a healthy way to express my emotions.	The Who, Billie Holiday, Aerosmith, Pavarotti, Rolling Stones.	I feel amazing. I love the spotlight and I feel really appreciated.	Pop-rock.	I hope to be. ... I hope we can inspire young girls.
HANDOUT Megan Fitchett	When I pick up a guitar, no matter how I feel, I feel better (as cheesy as that sounds).	B.B. King, AC/DC, Rush.	I feel incredible. It's a rush of excitement that is fuelled by the crowd. It's kind of hard to describe.	Different.	I hope we are role models because I think it is important for anyone to have someone to look up to.

GETTY IMAGES

Raine Maida

We asked DWD's producer Raine Maida for his take on the band.

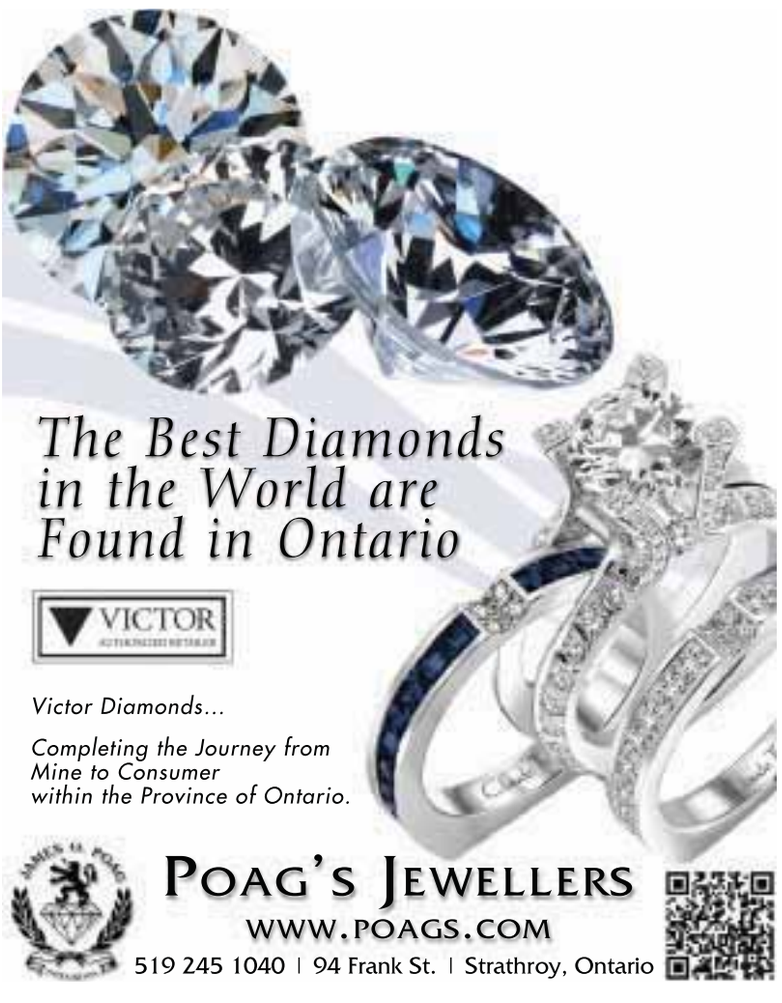
You have the opportunity to produce any number of fresh young bands. Why Done with Dolls?
We work with a lot of developing artists. However Done With Dolls are by far the youngest. The most interesting thing about Done With Dolls is their passion for being a "band" in a day and age where "real" rock bands, especially all-girl rock bands, are rare.

How would you describe their sound?
Constantly evolving. Their influences range from alt rock bands such as Tegan and Sara and Arcade Fire, to classic rock acts like Led Zeppelin and Blondie.

Check out Done With Dolls music videos on Youtube

Do you think their sound will evolve as they mature?
The key to their sound evolution will be in their growth as musicians. They have great taste in music and that serves them well. The trick is melding the two. Developing your own unique style and sound takes time especially when you're only 14. The exciting thing is that they understand this concept at such a young age.

What is the one piece of advice you have given the band — and that they have taken to heart?
Practice, practice, practice! The music business, especially for the younger demo, relies heavily on smoke and mirrors these days. It's a facade. Done With Dolls are the real deal. The reason we got involved with them in the first place is because they can all play their instruments, sing and write. If they keep working hard who knows how good they can get in 5 years. ... and they'll still only be 19. METRO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Lohan wants to move on

Likely to get house arrest instead of jail over stolen necklace Will still have to do community service

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILE

▶ Lindsay Lohan

After pleading no contest to her misdemeanor theft charge, Lindsay Lohan is eager to put the entire incident behind her as she serves out her jail sentence at home.

"I am glad to be able to put this past me and move on with my life and my career. I support the judge's decision and hold myself accountable for being in this situation," Lohan says in a statement to TMZ.

Meanwhile, her probation report, which was released after the no-contest plea was entered, divulged that Lohan had been drinking alcohol on the night she snuck out of the Betty Ford Center and had an altercation with an employee of the facility.

"The probation officer believes that substance abuse is the root of the defendant's problems," the report states, according to People magazine. METRO

Smith loses mega-trailer

▶ Will Smith

Will Smith's tricked-out trailer was sent packing Wednesday after complaints from residents in the Manhattan neighbourhood where his new film, Men in Black III, is being shot.

The double-decker digs were larger than many Manhattan residences and had locals up in arms about its size, noise and fumes.

The Heat, as the $2 million trailer is known, is 53 feet long and weighs 30 tons and includes a bar and lounge, screening room, offices and a granite bathroom. Wednesday afternoon, the megatrailer was removed by Columbia Pictures. METRO

▶ Leonardo DiCaprio

▶ Bar Refaeli

Leo splits with girlfriend Bar

Leonardo DiCaprio and Israeli model Bar Refaeli have reportedly called it quits after dating on and off for six years, according to Page Six.

"It was amicable, they're still friends and they are still talking. They just grew apart and went their separate ways," a source says. "Neither were ready to settle down, and both have busy careers that have been taking them in different directions."

The pair previously split up in 2009, reconciling last year. METRO

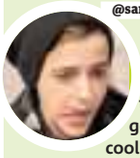
Celebrity tweets

@nicolerichie

"Dear Gypsy my cat, stop trying to kiss me with your morning breath, desperate."

@StephenAtHome

"William and Kate are honeymooning in an undisclosed location. Someone check that Pakistani compound again."


@samantharonson

"Hey young dude with the beard- I get it- you're cool. Can I buy you a razor now?"

@ConanOBrien

"My high school reunion is coming up. I think I can still fit into my old sense of inferiority."

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Hat that turned heads is for sale

Princess Beatrice is reportedly making the most of the infamy earned by the odd hat she wore to last month's Royal Wedding, as she's now auctioning the item off for charity.

"She's putting it up on eBay to auction it for UNICEF and for Children in Crisis," Beatrice's mother, Sarah Ferguson, tells Oprah Winfrey.

As for the Princess herself, she's pleased with the reactions her fashion choice received. "I think it's wonderful that it's had a reaction, it is just a hat after all, and now it has got its own Facebook page and so many fans," she tells Grazia magazine.

"It's an incredible response to that hat, really. I'm glad it provoked so much conversation." METRO

Hayden Panettiere ends long-distance romance with boxer

Hayden Panettiere and super-tall champion boxer boyfriend Wladimir Klitschko have broken up after a year and a half together, according to Hollyscoop.

"While we decided to split, we feel great sympathy and respect for each other and will surely stay close friends," Panettiere says in a statement.

The pair reportedly decided to split because of the stress of maintaining a long-distance relationship, as the Scream 4 starlet lives in L.A. while Klitschko lives in Germany. METRO

The perfect companion for Thai night

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

When it comes to take-out, I love Thai.

While the light, fresh personality of Thailand's regional cuisine makes my mouth water, it's the underlying spiciness of Thai that really turns my corkscrew.

Thai chefs balance the heat with sweet, sour and citrusy elements. That mixed bag of flavours makes choosing a beverage to wash down your Pad Thai about as easy as sitting through an episode of Glee.

One of the golden rules of food and wine pairing is: When in doubt pick juice made in the same country as what's on your plate.

Thailand's not much of a wine producer, so in the big scheme of things a chilled glass of lager beer is the perfect partner.

That said, an aromatic and peppery white like one made with the gewürztraminer (geh-vairtz-tra-mee-ner) grape, which is grown all over the world, is a natural with Thai (and all other Asian dishes as well).

Produced in the Baden region in the southwest part of Germany, the 2009 Badischer Winzerkeller Gewürztraminer ($10.76 - $13.29) is a tasty thirst quencher with flowery aromas and off-dry, baked pear and lychee fruit flavours supported by a backbone of white pepper spice.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Sweet treats... minus the flour

Phil Vickery's book Gluten-Free Baking boasts faves like muffins and pancakes Celebrate Celiac Disease Awareness Month with these recipes

BOTH: TARA FISHER; USED WITH PERMISSION FROM GLUTEN-FREE BAKING BY PHIL VICKERY (FIREFLY BOOKS, 2011)

Traditionally made with flour, these pancakes and muffins are made without it for a new take.

In his book Gluten-Free Baking (Firefly Books, 2011), Phil Vickery brings baked goods back into the lives of those with celiac disease or any form of gluten intolerance.

The book boasts 70 recipes such as Buttermilk Pancakes and Caramel Chocolate Fudge Brownie Muffins.

Buttermilk Pancakes

Once cooked, it is best to keep these pancakes warm in a clean kitchen towel, then reheat them before eating. Ten seconds in the microwave per pancake is plenty.

Preparation:

1. Pancakes: Place rice flour, baking powder and salt in bowl. Place egg, sunflower oil, melted butter, and buttermilk in another bowl and whisk well. Gradually, add wet mixture to dry ingredients, stirring well between each addition.
2. Heat nonstick skillet over medium heat and add olive oil.
3. Spoon in separate tablespoons of batter to make four small pancakes. Cook 2-3 minutes on one side, then flip over and cook other side until golden-brown. Repeat until all batter is used. Stack pancakes on a plate, and cover with foil or a clean kitchen towel to keep warm.

Ingredients:

- 1 scant cup (4 oz) fine rice flour
- ½ tea spoon baking powder
- pinch of salt
- 1 large egg, at room temperature
- 1 ½ tablespoon sunflower oil
- 4 tablespoons (2 oz) unsalted butter, melted
- 1 ¼ cups (10 fl oz) buttermilk
- 3 tablespoons mild olive oil

Caramel Chocolate Fudge Brownie Muffins

These are sweet, sticky muffins, full of chocolate and caramel! It's best to leave then slightly underbaked, so you still have a gooey centre.

Preparation:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F (180 C). Place 12 paper muffin liners in a muffin pan.
2. Place the flours, sugars, cocoa, and baking powder in a bowl and mix together well. Next, place the egg, vanilla extract, and half the dulce de leche in a separate bowl, and mix together well.
3. Add the egg mixture to the flour and sugar, and mix well, then add the chopped chocolate and the rest of the dulce de leche, and carefully "chop" through with a spoon, leaving the mixture roughly combined. Spoon into the muffin liners, and bake in the oven for 18 – 20 minutes.
4. Remove when well risen and still slightly underbaked. Cool slightly on a wire rack, and eat warm or cold.

RECIPES USED WITH PERMISSION FROM GLUTEN-FREE BAKING BY PHIL VICKERY (FIREFLY BOOKS, 2011)

Ingredients:

- 1 ¼ cup (6 ½ oz) Gluten-free flour mix
- ¼ cup (2 oz) dark brown sugar
- ¼ cup (2 oz) superfine sugar
- 3 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 2 teaspoons baking power
- 1 large egg, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 ¼ cup (14 oz) dulce de leche, from a jar or can
- 2 ½ tablespoons (1 oz) each of bittersweet, milk and chocolate, chopped

3 life

Grill Cleaning

Before firing up your outdoor grill, you should:

- Burn off residue by turning the grill on high, then brush the cooking grates with a stiff wire grill brush.
- Inspect and clean the cooking grates, burner tubes, heat distribution system, warming racks, exterior elements and grease collection tray.
- Check gas fittings and hoses for leaks and replace if needed.
- After turning off the gas and when the grill is cold, clear the burner tubes of any blockages, which restrict gas flow.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Each year, approximately 230 food recalls are issued by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. What's the process?

4 sports

Ready for the third round

After 2006 disappointment, Canucks' Torres wants to enjoy every playoff moment ◐ Canucks begin conference final at home on Sunday

GEOFF HOWE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Canucks head coach Alain Vigneault watches his players during a practice in Vancouver on Thursday.

It's the national anthems Raffi Torres enjoys the most.

Those few moments of calm before the storm allow the veteran Vancouver Canuck forward to soak up the atmosphere. It lets him appreciate something he thought he might never experience again.

"The anthems are the best part for me, looking around, especially at home," Torres said Thursday, after the Canucks practised at the Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre on the University of British Columbia campus.

"It's not our goal just to be in the final four here. It's to get to the big dance and win it."
RAFFI TORRES

"When the crowd starts signing, you see the smiles and all the kids. It's magical."

The Canucks are preparing to play in their first NHL Western Conference final in 17 years. Most of the players are anxious for the best-of-seven series to begin Sunday (CBC, 8 p.m.).

Torres is in no hurry. He wants to savour every moment of these playoffs, something he didn't do when he was part of the Edmonton Oilers' run to the 2006 Stanley Cup final. That ended with Edmonton losing in Game 7 to the Carolina Hurricanes.

"I never realized how hard it was to get back to where we are," said Torres.

"Back in '06, I just took it for granted. The next year we came in (and thought) we would repeat what we did. It was a big wake-up call."

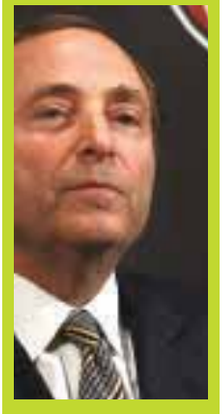
In 11 playoff matches he has one goal, one assist and 17 hits while averaging 10:26 of ice time.

Torres had four goals and 11 points in 22 games back in 2006. To him it was a blur.

"Everything was just flying by," he said. "There was so much stuff going on.

"I had a bigger role back (then) than I do now. I still feel like I can get back to that level." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Quoted



"I know somebody started that rumour. I have no press conferences scheduled for either tonight or tomorrow, and if we ever have something to announce, we'll announce it. But I really think all of this speculation is really inappropriate under all the circumstances, and it's not fair."
NHL COMMISSIONER GARY BETTMAN IN A STATEMENT ON NHL.COM THAT WAS RELEASED IN RESPONSE TO RUMOURS THAT THE ATLANTA THRASHERS MIGHT BE MOVING TO WINNIPEG.

Injury forces Tiger to withdraw

42
Woods' score after nine holes, three shots higher than his previous worst nine-hole score at the TPC Sawgrass.

CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Tiger Woods

Tiger Woods limped off the golf course and into a future that is murkier than ever Thursday when he withdrew with leg injuries after his worst nine holes at The Players Championship.

"I'm having a hard time walking," he said.

Woods shot a 42 on the front nine of the TPC Sawgrass, including a triple bogey on the fourth hole when he didn't clear a water hazard 30 yards in front of him.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Digestive disorder sidelines Lesnar

Brock Lesnar has pulled out of his UFC 131 fight in Vancouver to deal with diverticulitis again.

The former UFC heavyweight champion was hospitalized by the digestive disorder in November 2009 but recovered and returned to mixed martial arts.

The 33-year-old fighter says his condition is not as serious as it was before. And his hope is to be able to keep fighting.

"But let me tell you, my health and my family are more important than stepping in the Octagon for I don't care how much money," he told a conference call Thursday.

"One thing I have found out through all of this is that if you don't have your health and your family, you don't have diddly-squat."

Lesnar (5-2) said his choice is to undergo surgery to remove part of his colon or deal with the disorder the rest of his life.

"There's a solution to every problem," the six-foot-three 265-pounder said. "I've just got to find the right solution to fix this problem. I love this sport and I love what I do.

"This isn't the end of Brock Lesnar. This is a speed bump in the road and trust me, I've incurred a lot of speed bumps throughout my career."

Still, Lesnar said he told his wife about a week ago: "I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired. We've got to find a solution to this."

In 2009, Lesnar fell ill on a hunting trip in Manitoba and eventually spent 11 days in hospital and lost 42 pounds.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

SAM GREENWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Brock Lesnar

Bolts sure aren't doubting Thomas

- Bruins keeper and Tampa's Roloson are proving age hasn't slowed them
- 'I think it's going to be low-scoring games,' says Lightning coach Boucher

Shocking past

Tim Thomas has a past with Tampa Bay. He attended the Lightning's training camp in 1999 and played that season in their minor-league system.

- He was also a college teammate at Vermont with Tampa Bay star right-winger Martin St. Louis.
- "I know it's not going to be easy to play against Martin St. Louis," Thomas said.

Guy Boucher needed just one word to describe Boston Bruins goalie Tim Thomas: Enigma.

"He's shown that he's the best throughout the regular season and now in the playoffs he's shown the same," the Tampa Bay Lightning coach said. "I don't plan on him giving us any freebies whatsoever. He doesn't have many weaknesses. I guess it's making everybody scratch their heads about what to do, including myself."

Thomas and the Bruins will host Tampa Bay in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals on Saturday night.

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"Our confidence was good going into the playoffs and it's grown," Thomas said.

Thomas, the 37-year-old favourite for the Vezina Trophy as the top regular-season goalie, has been stellar during the post-season, too. His 2.03 goals-against average and .937 save percentage are the NHL's second best.

What may come as a surprise is that 41-year-old Tampa Bay goalie Dwayne Roloson (2.01 GAA and .941 save percentage) actually has slightly better numbers than Thomas through two playoff rounds.

"Those guys are playing amazing so far," Lightning centre Steven Stamkos said. "It's going be a great battle." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bruins goalie Tim Thomas's unorthodox style may not be graceful, but it is unpredictable and provides few tendencies.

Pushing. Back

▶ Canadian Cal Clutterbuck falls over the net Thursday during the quarter-final game between Canada and Russia in Bratislava, Slovakia.

MARTIN ROSE/BONGARTS/GETTY IMAGES

Worlds over for Canada

Canada was left bloodied, bruised and beaten during its second straight quarter-final exit at the IIHF World Hockey Championship. Alexei Kaigorodov and Ilya Kovalchuk scored 3:12 apart in the third period as Russia sent Canada packing with a comeback 2-1 victory Thursday. Canada was 6-0 before the game.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Germany is perfect place for Cup

FIELD OF PLAY

SCOTT RUSSELL
LONDON@METRONEWS.CA

It's enlightening to be in Germany and to understand that the Canadian women's soccer team will be playing in the World Cup against a diverse and challenging backdrop in less than six weeks.

Germany is a country that lives and breathes soccer. Or, more accurately, football.

The first match takes place in Berlin at the Olympic Stadium, the same one used for the historic 1936 Games where Adolf Hitler glowered disapprovingly and was forced eventually to acknowledge the brilliance of the black American sprinter Jesse Owens.

It's an awe-inspiring venue and more than 70,000 seats have been sold to see Canada play the defending World Cup champions from Germany.

The word "majestic" comes to mind.

MARTIN ROSE/BONGARTS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Canada's Emily Zurrer, right, and Germany's Inka Gring compete in a friendly in Dresden last September.

The second match is in Bochum, once a mining centre located in the industrial Ruhr region in western Germany. The community is distinctly working class and the football team dates back to 1848. The stadium is old and smallish but still able to accommodate 30,000 spectators.

The team mantra of VfL Bochum reads, "Mein revier ist heir." Translated it means, "My place is here." It's a dead giveaway to the status that football occupies in the consciousness of the people.

"There is no class structure here to football," one fan told me. "Only football, that's all that matters."

In Bochum, against France, a team with similar credentials, Canada will be exposed to the rabid obsession common people have with the game in this town.

Finally, the Canadians take on Nigeria in Dresden. This is a fascinating place to visit. A city of constant renaissance, Dresden was all but obliterated in February 1945 when Allied bombers let loose, killing 23,000 people in a single night and levelling 15 square kilometres of one of Germany's largest urban areas at the time.

Now, Dresden has been rebuilt in the fashion of its once glorious days.

The capital of Saxony has reclaimed the wondrous opera house on the banks of the Elbe River, as well as the palace of its legendary ruler Augustus the Strong.

Dresden's football team, Dynamo, a clue to its history in the former socialist German Democratic Republic, is fighting for advancement to the second division of the Bundesliga.

Here, Canada will be exposed to a truly resilient city.

The FIFA Women's World Cup is still more than one month away. But it's time for fans of football to get worked up.

That's because Canada is a player in a country where the sport means everything to the people.

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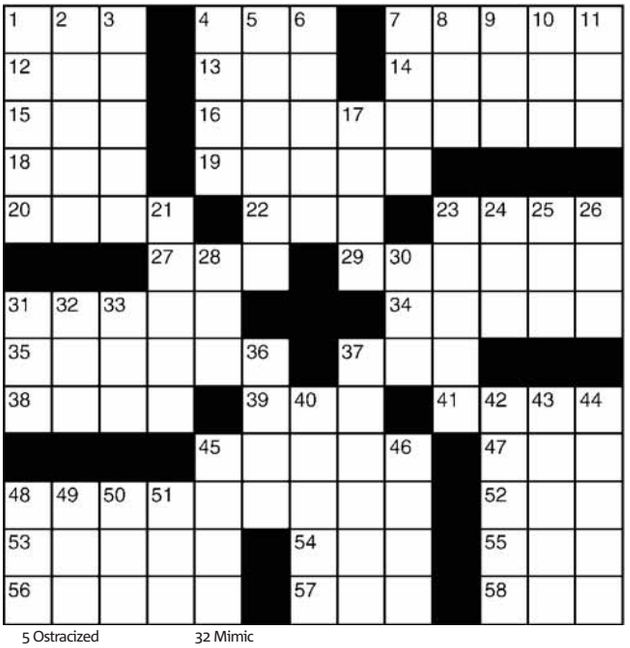

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10 Greek consonant
11 That woman
17 Experts
21 Jupiter has 63
23 Crowd?
24 Tease
25 Numerical prefix
26 Addnl. phone
28 Powell co-star
30 Luau bowlful
31 X rating?
32 Mimic
33 Violinist's need
36 Creche trio
37 One inspired by Terpsichore
40 Reach
42 Ohio city
43 O. Henry's specialty
44 Nervous
45 Commotions
46 Quaker address
48 Fleur-de- —
49 Citric beverage
50 Reed instrument
51 Definite article

▶ Yesterday's answer

E	M	S		H	I	S	S		O	K	A	Y
L	A	N		O	N	U	P		D	A	B	A
F	O	O	S	B	A	L	L		D	R	E	W
		W	A	N		A	I	R	B	A	L	L
B	A	B	O	O	N		T	O	A			
A	B	A		B	O	O		E	L	M	E	R
L	I	L	T		D	I	S		L	E	V	I
M	E	L	E	E		L	A	C		A	I	D
			A	R	A		C	A	S	T	L	E
C	U	E	B	A	L	L		M	O	B		
O	R	C	A		F	I	R	E	B	A	L	L
K	A	R	L		I	D	O	L		L	E	A
E	L	U	L		E	O	N	S		L	I	P

Sudoku

	2		8		9		4	
6								8
		4	5		3	6		
	8		6	1	7		9	
	4						5	
	1		4	2	5		7	
		1	7		2	5		
2								1
	3		1		6		2	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

3	4	6	9	1	8	5	7	2
7	2	1	4	3	5	8	6	9
8	9	5	6	7	2	4	1	3
9	3	2	8	5	7	1	4	6
5	1	4	3	9	6	7	2	8
6	8	7	2	4	1	9	3	5
1	6	3	7	8	9	2	5	4
4	5	8	1	2	3	6	9	7
2	7	9	5	6	4	3	8	1

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

...BaBy BoO...
i LoVe YoU sO
mUcH....Mwahhh
From **~*NADIA*~**

Missing Metro Girl, Nothing is easy. Though time gets you worrying, it's okay my friend. Just take your life easy and stop all that hurrying, be happy my way. When tension starts mounting and you've lost count of the pennies you've missed, just try hard and see why they're not worrying me, they're last on my list. Nothing's easy. **THE DARK SIDE**

BigE, i love you with my heart, soul & body. i can't live a life without you. I've loved you since we started talking and when we met i loved you even more and when you kissed me i knew i'd be spending the rest of my life with you. I love you BigE. **YOUR LIFE**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Loved ones will be negative today. Ignore their dismal outlook and do what feels right to you personally.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 The harder you work, the less you seem to get done, which suggests you've overlooked important details.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 If something doesn't seem to work, you may be tempted to change it from top to bottom. Don't.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Others may gossiping about you but there's no reason to be concerned.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Don't wait for a friend to ask for your help today — offer it up front. Some find it difficult to request assistance.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You are worrying about something that isn't worth the effort. Listen to the advice you get from a friend.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You like to believe what others tell you but it'll pay you to be skeptical today.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 When dealing with a tough task, believe in yourself and what you are doing. You're tough.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 If you feel that a certain course of action is right then just do it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Be careful what you say today. If you're negative, others may cut you out of their plans.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Someone you thought you could trust is deliberately misleading you. Find out his or her reasons.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. It may be that certain things aren't working out the way you anticipated. It's OK. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

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AP/ FORTWORTH STAR-TELEGRAM/ RON JENKINS

WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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